5. CASE 20.055, 83-85 MESSER STREET, House, ca1900 (ARMORY)

 $2\%\mbox{-story};$ cross-gable; shingle dwelling; with double entrance under Tuscan porch. CONTRIBUTING



Arrow indicates 83-85 Messer Street.



Arrow indicates project location.

Applicant/Contractor: Bright Planet Solar, 5 A Street, Auburn, MA 01501

Owner: Hilary Williams, 85 Messer Street, providence, RI 02909

Proposal: The scope of work proposed consists of Minor Alterations: Solar Energy Systems and includes:

The applicant is requesting the installation of 34 solar panels in two arrays to the south slope of the gable-end roof.

Issues: The following issues are relevant to this application:

- The modifications as proposed will not be visible from the public rights-of-way;
- The modifications as proposed meets Minor Alterations: Solar Energy Systems Guidelines, Section 2, in the following manner: Panel layout shall be sympathetic or appropriate to design and scale of building. Rectangular configurations are preferred, with ample setback from edge of roof, dormers, chimneys, etc. (2.A); Panels shall be installed parallel to the existing roof slope and matched as closely as possible to the roof plane (2.B); Panels shall be installed without destroying or replacing original or historic materials or significantly compromising or altering the building's structural integrity (2.C); Panels shall be compatible in color to existing roofing insofar as possible (2.D); Installation of panels shall be as inconspicuous as possible when viewed from public right-of-way (2.E); Installation shall be reversible. Panels shall be removed when no longer viable or functioning and roofing restored to pre-existing conditions (2.F); and,
- Drawings and pictures have been submitted.

Recommendations: The staff recommends the PHDC make the following findings of fact:

- a) 83-85 Messer Street is a structure of historical and architectural significance that contributes to the significance of the Armory local historic district being listed as a contributing structure to the Broadway/Armory National Historic Register District;
- b) The modifications as proposed meets Minor Alterations: Solar Energy Systems Guidelines, Section 2, and is considered complete; and,
- c) The work as proposed is in accord with PHDC Standards 8 & 9 as follows: 8) the work will be done so that it does not destroy the historic character of the property or the district; and, 9) Whenever possible... alterations to structures shall be done in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure and the site will be unimpaired.

Staff recommends a motion be made stating that: The application is considered complete. 83-85 Messer Street is a structure of historical and architectural significance that contributes to the significance of the Armory local historic district being listed as a contributing structure to the Broadway/Armory National Historic Register District. The Commission grants Final Approval of the proposal as submitted as the proposed alteration is appropriate having determined that the proposed alteration does not destroy the historic character of the property or the district and is aesthetically compatible with the property and district as the proposed alteration is of limited-to-no visibility from the public rights-of-way, is reversible and will not have an adverse effect on the property or district, and the recommendations in the staff report, with staff to review any additional required details.







